

Huggins

*Cowbellion de Rakin  
Society.*



*Forty-Sixth Anniversary.*  
MOBILE THEATRE.  
December 30th, 1876.

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## A Cowbellion's Glimpses

OF

## Early English History.

"So temper life's work, weariness with timely relaxation:  
Most witless wight of all is he, who never plays the fool;  
The heart grows gray before the head, when sunk in sad prostration:  
It's winter knows no Christmas, with its glowing log of Yule.  
Why weep, faint-hearted and forlorn, when evil comes to try us?  
The fount of hope wells ever nigh; 'twill cheer us if we quaff:  
And, when the gloomy phantom of Despondency stands by us,  
Let us, in calm defiance, exorcise it, with a laugh."

## Tableau First.

Julius Cæsar (so called from his readiness to seize upon everything) landing upon the coast of Britain, the land of John Bull, the worthy progenitor of the "Cowbellion de Rakin Society."

"What Millions died that Cæsar might be great!"

### Tableau Second.

The Emperor Severus (advanced in age and a martyr to the gout) leads his army against the barbarians.

“—————there he comes;  
What ray of honor round about him looms!  
O, what new beams from his bright eyes do glance!  
O, Princely port! presageful countenance,  
Of hap at hand! He doth not nicely prank  
In clinquant pomp, as some of meaner rank;  
But swathed in wool, that soft habiliment;  
He's not so much for use as ornament.”

### Tableau Third.

Miss Rowena Hengist presenting the wine cup and her love to Vortigern.

“He says he loves my daughter;  
I think so too! for never gazed the moon  
Upon the water, as he'll stand and read  
As 't were, my daughter's eyes; and, to be plain,  
I think there is not half a kiss to choose,  
Which loves the other best.”

### Tableau Fourth.



William inspecting his Army of Invasion.

"Tag from Maine and Anjou,  
Rag from Poitou and Bretagne,  
With Bob-tail from Flanders,  
Came rapidly pouring in:  
While the Riff of the Rhine  
And the Raff of the Alps,  
Formed altogether a mob  
Of the most miscellaneous character."

### Tableau Fifth.



The Battle of Hastings.

"With many a stiff thwack; many a bang.  
Hard Crabtree and old iron rang;  
While none who saw them could divine  
To which side conquest would incline,"

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Tableau Sixth.

Panoramic view of England from the Invasion  
by Julius Cæsar to the Invasion of William  
the Conqueror.

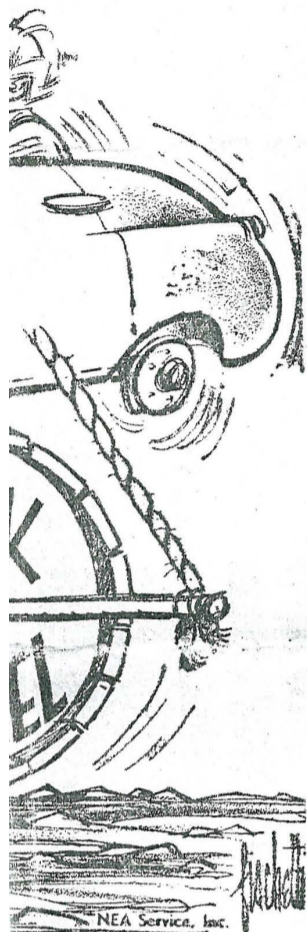
"..... The end crowns all;  
And that old common arbitrator, Time,  
Will one day end it."

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Huggins

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't Work?"



**GEORGE HUGGINS AND THE ORIGINAL COWBELLIONS**—An artist's conception, which appeared in the Mobile Press Register over ten years ago, illustrating how Michael Krafft and his sextette of celebrants created with a loud clamor that midnight demonstration that developed into the now famous Mardi Gras parades. (Old newspaper courtesy Mrs. B. H. Pickett of Pascagoula).

## KNOW YOUR COAST

### The Missing Link Of Mardi Gras

In the city of Pascagoula at 314 South Canty Street, in the possession of Mrs. B. H. Pickett, is a huge over a hundred-year-old oil painting about 48" x 60" that hangs on the wall with over twenty gaping holes and several long disfiguring slashes cut in its canvas.

Discernible between the holes and slashes is the full size portrait of Mrs. Pickett's grandfather — a Captain George Huggins, once of the Mobile City Militia, in his resplendent officer's sashed and epauletted uniform, standing beside his beautiful horse, with a running stream and the tents of bivouacked militia in the background. This Captain Huggins died in 1852 but his mutilated portrait has been proudly and carefully passed down through his children and grandchildren for almost a century.

The mystery is, of course — who was this Captain Huggins outside of a Captain of Militia — who was it so viciously slashed and cut and gouged his portrait and for what reason — and why does the Mobile Historical Preservation Society and the Jackson County Historical Society both consider this damaged canvas the missing link of Mardi Gras?

Well, let's take the last question first. Biloxi correctly claims the first celebration of Mardi Gras in America when d'Iberville and his small exploring party split a bottle of wine on the first Shrove Tuesday of the French occupation of the new Colony of Louisiana. New Orleans, of course, is conceded to stage the biggest and most parades and to attract the most people. But Mobile boasts that it was she who originated both the parade and "mistick krewe" ideas that have transformed Mardi Gras into the greatest Free Show in the South. Which brings us closer to Captain Huggins.

Because George Huggins was one of that famous sextette of young and prominent Mobilians headed by Michael Krafft who, on New Year's Eve of 1831, following an evening of wining and dining,

saw through rose colored vision the intriguing array of hoes and rakes, tubs and buckets and cowbells in the Partridge Hardware window as both they and midnight converged on the corner of Commerce and St. Francis streets.

So they unceremoniously borrowed the aforementioned bucolic implements, put the rakes and hoes over their shoulders and beating the tubs and buckets and clanging the cowbells, proceeded to parade the sleeping town and serenade their friends. Among these was Mobile's Mayor John Stocking Jr., who graciously invited them in for refreshments, thereby giving official sanction to what turned out to be the inspiration for the organization of the Cowbellion de Rakin Society out of which developed the famous Coast Carnival parade krewe and the fabulous parades themselves.

In the Magnolia Cemetery of Mobile are the graves of the two remembered pioneers of Mardi Gras parades — Michael Krafft and George Huggins — and on their tombstones are emblazoned the emblem of the famous Cowbellion de Rakin Society they organized, with its cowbell, rake, hoe and owl design symbolizing the original carnival society in America.

George Huggins owned a beautiful home across Mobile Bay at Battle's Wharf near where Fairhope is today and, as we said in the beginning, was a Captain in the City Guards or Militia with enough prestige to merit his life size portrait hanging in the Armory.

When the Yankees captured Mobile a squad of soldiers saw his portrait and, although he had been dead nine years before the War Between the States erupted, they mistook his magnificent uniform for that of at least a Rebel General and proceeded to gouge and slash his picture with their bayonets. Later the Colonel of the regiment formally apologized to Mrs. Huggins — but the torn canvas was never repaired and eventually the picture was given to the family.

That's the story of the slashed oil painting of George Huggins — revered not because he paraded in the handsome uniform in which he posed when painted, but because one midnight he paraded with a rake and a red flare borrowed without leave from the rail-

road over his shoulder and helped propel into history that popular precedent that has made the celebration of Mardi Gras a magnificent outdoor all-day spectacle.

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### Sees Necessity Of Tax Increase

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Rep. Robert Angelle, a top aide of Gov. Earl Long, predicted yesterday tax increases would be necessary to balance the state budget adopted by the Legislature in May.

The House speaker mentioned as possible revenue sources increases of two cents in the gasoline tax and natural gas gathering tax, new taxes on the trucking industry that is "tearing up the highways and a tax increase on whisky.

The Breaux Bridge lawmaker told a civic group state finances were in poor shape and "we may be 43 million dollars in the red." He said budget requests from 33 state agencies ran 10 to 12 per cent higher, forcing the governor's budget committee to "use the knife."

He said teachers would not get their current increased salary without new taxes.

### QUAKE RECORDED

MOBILE, Ala. (AP)—The Spring Hill College seismograph recorded a severe earthquake last night. Father L. J. Eisele estimated its distance at 4,536 miles from Mobile but said he was not sure in which direction.

The seismologist also said the quake was probably the start of a major series.

"It's been too calm too long," Eisele said. "I expect a flock of them now."

|         | SUN  | SUN  | MOON    |
|---------|------|------|---------|
|         | RISE | SET  | SET     |
| Mar. 20 | 6:04 | 6:11 |         |
| Mar. 21 | 6:03 | 6:12 | 7:32 p  |
| Mar. 22 | 6:02 | 6:13 | 8:24 p  |
| Mar. 23 | 6:00 | 6:14 | 9:18 p  |
| Mar. 24 | 5:59 | 6:14 | 10:11 p |

| TIDES AND RIVERS |        |        |        |
|------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| TIDES            |        |        |        |
|                  | High   | Low    |        |
| Mar. 20 10:50 a  | 1.1 ft | 5:14 a | 0.4 ft |
| Mar. 21 11:00 a  | 1.2 ft | 5:26 p | 0.2 ft |
| Mar. 22 11:22 a  | 1.3 ft | 7:38 p | 0.1 ft |
| Mar. 23 11:22 a  | 1.3 ft | 8:52 p | 0.1 ft |

| To determine high or low tide at the following points, ADD or SUBTRACT the applicable time interval to the time of high or low water at BILOXI BAY. |          |               |  |
|---|----------|---------------|--|
| High Tide   |          |               |  |
| Born Island Pass  | add      | 0 hr. 61 min. |  |
| Pascagoula Riv. En  | add      | 0 hr. 32 min. |  |
| Ship Island Pass  | sub.     | 0 hr. 10 min. |  |
| Bay St. Louis   | add      | 1 hr. 25 min. |  |
| Low Tide  |          |               |  |
| Born Island Pass  | sub.     | 0 hr. 33 min. |  |
| Pascagoula R. E.  | subtract | 0 hr. 22 min. |  |
| Ship Island Pass  | subtract | 0 hr. 10 min. |  |
| Bay St. Louis   | add      | 1 hr. 46 min. |  |
| Long Pt. (Riglets)  | add      | 2 hr. 01 min. |  |
| Long Pt. (Riglets)  | add      | 2 hr. 02 min. |  |

### Improvements To Post Offices Set

WASHINGTON (AP)—The General Services Administration announced Thursday the award of design contracts to Samuel L. Burks and Associates of Memphis for improvements to post-offices in several Mississippi cities.

The improvements will include other work.

The postoffices, the estimated construction costs and design fees follow:

Philadelphia, estimated construction cost, \$20,074, design fees, \$1,041; Kosciusko, \$22,243 and \$1,041; Columbus, \$39,600 and \$1,730; East Point, \$22,442 and \$1,010; and Aberdeen, \$66,194 and \$2,978.

In addition, the contract has an option for supervision services for which the fee would be \$300.

Philadelphia; \$335 at Kosciusko; \$595 at Columbus; \$337 at East Point; and \$994 at Aberdeen. Plans and specifications are due July 15.

### TOO LATE

O'NEILL, Neb. (AP) — Officers who picked up a 14-year-old boy in a theater and found him with the loot from a robbery observed that maybe he should have been in the show before the robbery.

He was watching "The Ten Commandments."

### UTH MILLETT—

### You Can Put This Gal In A Pedestal, For Sure!

You have to admire a woman—just as much as you have to admire a man. When other women are bragging about one who isn't sent, says "I LIKE her." Who, though she looks far too young to be a grandmother, is much prouder of her grandchildren than of her own youth. Looks that you hear about the children as soon as you hear her.

Who keeps quiet about the good she does. Who can do you a favor in such a gracious way that it seems as though you are doing HER one. Who can let her husband talk about her.

### ★ EDSON IN WASHINGTON ★

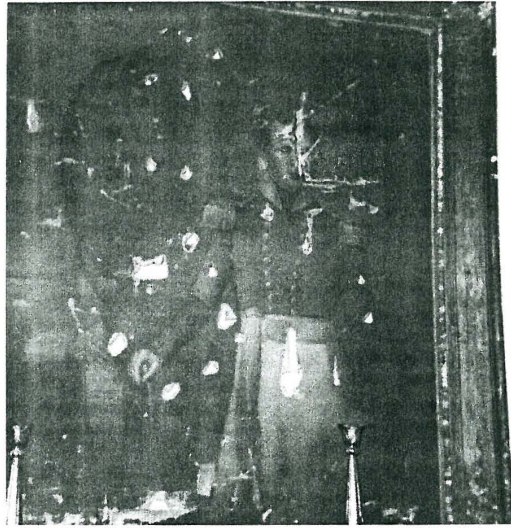
### Anti-Recession Program

May 1957 75 P. 211

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OVER



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2/13/66

George Huggins

Born in Cecil County Md.

October 10, 1802

Died in Mobile, Ala.

February 22, 1852

"Cowbellion de Rakin  
County"

Transcribed as: 2/13/66

George Huggins

Born in Cecil County MD

October 10, 1802

Died in Mobile, Ala.

February 22, 1852

"Cowbellion de Rakin

Pascagoula Public Library  
Local History & Genealogy Department  
Huggins Family

MAGNOLIA  
Cemetery

53

FRANCES E. POE  
Born in Taunton, England  
Mar. 5, 1812 - July 19, 1871

EMMA JONES BOND

JAMES BOND  
Died Jan. 5, 1887

LIZZIE POE BOND  
Wife of James Bond  
Died Nov. 18, 1873

JAMES POE BOND  
Died Oct. 3, 1883 Age 15 years

EDMUND GAINES BOND  
1869 - 1927

FRANCES TOULMIN BOND  
1870 - 1949

ANN ELIZA MARSHALL  
Died June 8, 1851 Age 19 years

JOHN H. MARSHALL

JOHN MARSHALL  
Died Oct. 8, 1867 Age 70 years

ANNA L. MURRAY

MARY J. MARSHALL  
Wife of John H. Marshall  
Died Jan. 19, 1880

WILLIAM MONTGOMERY MARSHALL  
Son of John H. & Mary Dupuy Marshall  
Dec. 2, 1859 - July 14, 1938

JOHN DUPUY MARSHALL  
Only child of John H. & Mary L. Marshall  
Died April 28, 1855 Age 2 yrs 2 mos 24 days

FRANCIS CLARK MARSHALL  
Second son of John & Ann E. Marshall  
Died Oct. 19, 1839  
Aged 3 years 6 months & 11 days

Our Foreman  
T. M. ENGLISH  
Sept. 1, 1835 - Aug. 19, 1884

ANNIE W. ENGLISH  
Dau. of T.M. & M.E. English  
July 13, 1858 - Aug. 10, 1888

JEREMIAH REA  
Died March 3, 1843

WILLIAM C. COART  
A native of Newbern, N. C.  
Died of yellow fever Oct. 31, 1844 Age 32 yrs

ANSON G. ALLEN  
A native of Newbern, N. C.  
Died of yellow fever Sept. 30, 1839  
Aged 19 years 3 mos & 13 days

WILLIAM HOLWAY  
Died Feb. 16, 1840 Age 27 years  
Erected by his brother, Charles Holway

LINDSEY PATTERSON  
A native of Western Pennsylvania  
Sept. 12, 1799 - Sept. 23, 1839

J. MORTIMER FOLHAMUS  
Born in New York, Dec. 12, 1807  
Died of yellow fever Sept. 21, 1839

JOHN H. PERRY  
Born in New York, May 17, 1808  
Died Oct. 20, 1855  
and his son  
J. MORTIMER PERRY  
Born July 24, 1833  
Died in New Orleans, La., Apr. 7, 1860

AUGUSTUS BROOKS  
Born in Albemarle Co., Va., in 1810  
Died Feb. 11, 1871

MARY ELIZABETH BROOKS  
Dau. of John F. & Sarah Everitt  
Wife of Augustus Brooks  
Born in St. Stephens, Ala., Nov. 8, 1816  
Died Oct. 10, 1878

EUGENE BROOKS  
Son of Augustus & Mary E. Brooks  
Born in Mobile, Sept. 11, 1839  
Died June 19, 1879

GEORGE HUGGINS  
Born in Cecil Co., Md., Oct. 10, 1808  
Died in Mobile, Feb. 22, 1852

PLACIDE HUGGINS WALKER  
1850 - 1928

MRS. JANE CHRIE  
A native of Co.  
for past 22 years  
Mobile- Died Jan.

CONRAD CHRIETZ  
Died Dec. 14,

JACOB C. TOY  
A native of Ph  
Died Oct. 26,  
days

WILLIAM H. DOR  
Son of Andrew  
Died March 3,

HENRY CHARLES  
1869 - 1944  
and wife  
SUSAN ELDER F  
1872 - 1959

FANNIE LOWEER  
Born in St. L  
Died in Colum

RACHEL MARY B  
Wife of James  
Born in Washi  
Died in Mobil

WILLIAM HENRY  
Born in Mobil  
Died Aug. 23,

RUTH ANNA ELD  
Wife of Wm He  
Died in Mobil

META DAVENPOR  
June 4, 1878

HORTENSE POL  
Died Jan. 3,

AMANDA U. SL  
May 23, 1829

EUGENE NOEL  
Only child o  
Gorham Daven  
June 12, 183

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( Activities and News Notes on the )

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**MISS VIRGINIA HUGGINS**

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Huggins, of Biloxi, a charming young woman and Biloxi High School student, who took prominent part in various carnival festivities in which Mississippi coast society participated. Miss Huggins is an accomplished aesthetic dancer.

T. J. Klumbo low and the consolation

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**Mr. and Mrs. Huggins  
Given Party On Their  
Anniversary**

Readers of the *Journal* know that Mr. and Mrs. George H. Huggins gave them a very pleasant surprise on their sixtieth wedding anniversary, May 28, when they gathered at the Huggins home laden with cake and fruit punch which was served under the beautiful trees in the yard of the home.

Mr. and Mrs. Huggins were presented with a purse of money as a gift from relatives.

This beloved couple were married in Pascagoula on May 28, 1884, by the Rev. J. A. Foppe, a Catholic priest then residing in Pascagoula, and have lived here practically all their lives. Mrs. Huggins is the former Miss Isabella Pol.

Of the two children born to them, their son, Cleve Huggins, died a few years ago while serving as sheriff of Harrison County. Their daughter, Mrs. Juanita Martin, resides in Pascagoula and it is with her that they make their home. *Jun. 2, 1944*

# ALL OUR YESTERDAYS - - - (From

## 100 YEARS AGO

**Plea For Absent Candidate—**Mobile, Oct. 29, 1838: To the Voters of the West Ward: The election takes place today in the West Ward, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the unavoidable absence of one of the candidates now before you, Mr. Huggins, whose seat was declared vacated by limitation, "according to the city constitution." In justification of Mr. Huggins' claims upon his constituents, for a continuance of his seat, I would mention that he reluctantly left here last June for Hot Springs in Virginia, by the persuasion of some three or four of our city doctors. I left the Springs in September, with Mr. Huggins, for Louisville, Ky., when

we separated in consequence of his great desire to reach home, and believing he would do so sooner by taking a boat down the Ohio. I took the land route, and with great difficulty have just reached here. It is well known to all, that thousands are in the same situation with Mr. Huggins, the Ohio and Mississippi rivers being lower now than ever before known, thousands have left the West by steamboats, believing it the most expeditious way of getting to the low country, and have been compelled to paddle their way in a canoe or a "broad-horn."

I am induced to make these statements for Mr. H. as it is a duty he owes his constituents to give good reasons for his absence, and he is

not here himself to do so. You elected him at the Charter Election in March last, and as far as I know, he represented you faithfully up to the time of his departure. He is the same George Huggins now that he was then, and left under circumstances that any other citizen would have left. I have no doubt, but advantages has been taken of his absence to electioneer against him—but this should not influence his friends—"Philo."

## Fifty-Seven Years Of Married Life To Mr. and Mrs. Huggins

Mr. and Mrs. George H. Huggins of 532 Washington avenue were married 57 years last Wednesday and a number of their friends and relatives took them by surprise and came with cake and refreshments and presents for the worthy couple. They all spent a happy afternoon and wished Mr. and Mrs. Huggins many more years of married life together.

George H. Huggins and Isabella Pol were married at the old Pol residence on the Pascagoula river on May 28, 1884, Rev. Father Foppe performing the ceremony. It was on Wednesday, and happens as a coincidence the 57th anniversary was Wednesday.

We add our congratulations to those of the friends who called to pay their respects to Mr. and Mrs. Huggins, Wednesday. *MAY 30 1941*

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**HUGGINS** — Funeral services for MRS. MARGARET HAIG HUGGINS, wife of the late Frank Huggins, who died Monday, were held at the Roche Funeral Home Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock, with Dr. J. B. Carpenter of the Central Presbyterian Church officiating. The pallbearers were P. H. Walker, G. C. Brinson, Kenric Hunter and W. F. Cowles. Interment was in Magnolia Cemetery.